

--Summary of the Invention--.

Page 3, between lines 18 and 19, please insert the following heading:

--Brief Description of the Drawings--.

Page 4, line 1, please insert the following heading:

--Description of Preferred Embodiments--.

On page 5, at the bottom of the page please insert the following paragraph:

The specification incorporates by reference the disclosure of German priority documents DE 298 07 331.5 of 23 April 1998; DE 298 17 072.8 of 23 September 1998; DE 298 17 487.1 of 1 October 1998; DE 298 20 230.1 of 12 November 1998 and European Patent Application priority document PCT/EP99/02654 filed 20 April 1999.

The present invention is, of course, in no way restricted to the specific disclosure of the specification and drawings, but also encompasses any modifications within the scope of the appended claims.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1, 13, and replace them with the attached claims 14 - 25.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the literal translation of the abstract with the attached abstract of the disclosure.

REMARKS

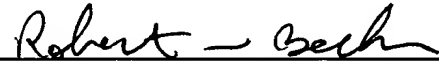
Claims 14 - 25 are pending in the application.

Appropriate headings have been added to the specification, the abstract has been replaced, and the claims from the literal translation have been replaced by claims drafted in conformity with U.S. Patent practice.

09445839-032401
a

The application in its amended state is believed to be in condition for allowance. However, should the Examiner have any comments or suggestions, or wish to discuss the merits of the application, the undersigned would very much welcome a telephone call in order to expedite placement of the application into condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert W. Becker Reg. No. 26,255
for Applicant(s)

ROBERT W. BECKER & ASSOCIATES
11896 N. Highway 14, Suite B
Tijeras, New Mexico 87059

Telephone: (505) 286-3511
Facsimile: (505) 286-3524

09446839-032401